

Among his accomplishments Cotta won the Edward R. Murrow Award in 1998 for the western region. He has had three Emmy-nominated newscasts: for 1996, 1997, and 1998. In addition, he had Emmy-nominated reports in 1997. Cotta started the Fresno market's only weekly half-hour sports show. He has also developed the first live aerial news gathering capabilities in the market, the first digital satellite news gathering in the market, and the first two and half AM show newscasts in the market.

Cotta has produced a variety of T.V. specials and programs, as well as spearheading coverage of several major sporting and news events. Cotta has covered Super Bowls, the World Series, Major League All-Star games, the NIT Championship of 1983, the College World Series, and the 1989 San Francisco earthquake.

While Cotta leaves channel 47, KJEO he remains an outstanding source of news and information and leaves behind a 26 year legacy of dedication to his profession and his community.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Marc Cotta for his tremendous contributions to his community and to the news and broadcast business. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Cotta many more years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF LTC STEVE H.
INADA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a man who has dedicated his life to serving in the U.S. Army and has pursued all of his military endeavors with the highest degree of bravery and courageousness. Lieutenant Colonel Steve Inada will be retiring from active duty on June 1, 2000, after over twenty years of service to his country.

Born in Marina, California, Steve enlisted in the Army through the University of California at Berkeley ROTC program in April 1978. Throughout his military career, LTC Inada's valiant service has resulted in, among other things, his receipt of various personal awards including: an Army Service Ribbon; a National Defense Ribbon; an Armed Forces Reserve Ribbon; an Army Achievement Medal; a Joint Service Achievement Medal; an Army Commendation Medal; a Joint Commendation Medal; three Meritorious Service Medals; a Joint Meritorious Service Medal; and he will soon receive a Retirement Medal. A life of dedication to his country has also earned Steve a Joint Meritorious Unit Award, an Airborne Badge, a Joint Staff Badge and an Office of Secretary of Defense Badge. We should all aspire to lead a life of public service similar to that of LTC Inada who has time and time again placed his country before himself.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing the many contributions which LTC Inada has made as a member of the U.S. Army. At each assignment, he has functioned as an invaluable asset to his division. Although well deserved, LTC Inada's retirement is a loss for the U.S. Army. I wish Steve many years of happiness as he enjoys his golden years.

"MR. BASEBALL", A TRIBUTE TO
SENATOR HARRY WIGGINS OF
MISSOURI

HON. PAT DANNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Ms. DANNER. Mr. Speaker, as famed baseball legend George Herman "Babe" Ruth once said, "Baseball was, is and always will be to me the best game in the world." Well Mr. Speaker, for more than 30 years, America's favorite pastime has, indeed, been the best game in the world to my former colleague and longtime friend, Missouri State Senator HARRY WIGGINS. Today I honor him for being named "Mr. Baseball" by the Kansas City Royals.

As most fans of the Kansas City Royals are aware, Senator Wiggins has been a lifelong sports enthusiast who has never hesitated in proclaiming the Royals as "The greatest organization in baseball." Since becoming a state senator in 1974, Harry has used his position as a dedicated public servant to rally behind the needs of the franchise while advancing the Royals' image as a team which thrives on the spirit and dedication of its fans.

As a young boy growing up in Kansas City, Harry dreamed of playing third base for the Kansas City Blues, a Triple A Farm Team whose glory days have long since ended. Although Harry would never join the ranks of baseball greats such as Joe Dimaggio, Mickey Mantle and Johnnie Mize on the baseball diamond, his love of the game and passion for baseball in Kansas City has never diminished. Decades later, and now as a seasoned statesman and respected politician, Harry is still the first fan to arrive at Kauffman Stadium and the last to leave—his busy Senate schedule permitting, of course.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the House of Representatives for allowing me to congratulate Senator Harry Wiggins for his many years of support for the Kansas City Royals. His love of the game of baseball, commitment to the team and unwavering advocacy on behalf of all Royals' fans continue to show that he is truly deserving of the title, "Mr. Baseball".

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 290) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chairman, passing a budget resolution should be the first step in a process of guiding our country towards fiscal stability. In a time when the economy is strong and when there is a consensus on things like

reducing the national debt, protecting Social Security and getting the most out of the dollars we invest, one would hope the budget resolution could be accomplished in a constructive fashion. At this time, we should establish a blueprint for government spending that guides our spending decisions through the coming years and gives a signal to the American public about our priorities.

Unfortunately, again this year that has not been the case with the budget resolution. The resolution adopted by the Republican majority continues a pattern of budget gimmicks, ambiguity, and deception. The Republican appropriators have no intention of following this blueprint and there is virtually no one in the Republican caucus who's going to have a voting record at the end of this year that would conform to what the budget resolution demands. This budget is rife with double counting, under counting for important priorities such as a Medicare prescription drug benefit, and slashes other priorities for massive tax cuts that are not supported by the American public and will not find their way into law.

I voted for four alternatives to this budget, all of which are superior to the Republican version which was passed. There are details of each that I don't necessarily agree with, but they are each more honest and would be better for America than the Republican version.

I hope I will see the day when we have a budget resolution that actually resembles the final budget at the end of the year.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREEK
INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize March 25th as Greek Independence Day. This past Saturday, as Greeks celebrated the 179th anniversary of their freedom from Ottoman rule, many of my own constituents commemorated this occasion with a special ceremony in Middletown, Connecticut. The blue-and-white Greek flag flew high over Middletown, as city and state officials gathered with residents for the unveiling of a new street sign called Eleftheria Way—the Greek word for freedom.

The pursuit of freedom is just one of the many ideals which have historically bound together our peoples. In many ways, Greece was the birthplace of American democracy. In 370 B.C., Plato wrote in *The Republic*: "Democracy is a charming form of government, full of variety and disorder, and dispensing a kind of equality to equals and unequals alike." In an address made over 2400 years ago, Pericles explained: "Our Constitution is called a democracy because power is in the hands not of a minority but of the whole people. When it is a question of settling private disputes, everyone is equal before the law; when it is a question of putting one person before another in positions of public responsibility, what counts is not a membership of a particular class, but the actual ability which the mass possesses."

As Americans, we are indebted to the contributions of the Ancient Greeks in so many areas, including science, medicine and the

arts. Greek civilization has inspired our passion for truth and justice. And for more than a century, Americans of Greek descent have continued to lend their wisdom, energy and talent to our nation while weaving their own unique history into the social fabric of America.

Greek Independence Day marks an important milestone for lovers of freedom and democracy worldwide. I congratulate Greece for 179 years of independent rule and for a legacy that will extend for an eternity.

TRIBUTE TO WAYNE ASPINALL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to a man who sat in this august body for 24 years, from 1948 to 1972. Mr. Speaker, he served with six Presidents during that time, and was Chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. It was during his tenure in the House that the focus cleared on land and water issues in this great country. Mr. Speaker, I am referring to the late-Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall from the small peach and winery town of Palisade, Colorado.

Not only did Wayne Aspinall serve with distinction here, but his career in public service spanned over 48 years, including six years on his Town's Board of Trustees and 16 years in the Colorado Legislature. His six years in the Colorado House of Representatives included service as House Speaker for two years. As a state Senator for ten years, he served as both Majority and Minority leader. He was also a sergeant in the Air Service of the Army Signal Corps during World War I.

But let me talk further about Wayne Aspinall's time in the U.S. Congress. In 1956, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation, he crafted the Colorado

River Storage Project Act of 1956, which authorized Glen Canyon, Flaming Gorge, Navajo and Curecanti projects, plus several smaller projects authorized for construction and others designated for study. Aspinall's legislation was signed into law by President Eisenhower on April 11, 1956.

In 1959, Congressman Aspinall became Chairman of the U.S. House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, as I mentioned. The ensuing 14-years of his leadership were probably the most productive in history in terms of water projects and national parks authorized and built or developed, wilderness areas designated, redwoods protected, the states of Alaska and Hawaii were admitted to the Union, public land law review, and so much more.

Mr. Speaker, this remarkable Congressman's accomplishments continued. In 1964, he paved the way to the Wilderness Act, which became law September 3 and designated 9.1 million acres of wilderness and set aside more for study. At the same time, the Land and Water Conservation Fund was established primarily for parks acquisition.

Then, in 1968, he created the Colorado River Basin Development Act, signed into law by President Johnson on September 30, which balanced development in the basin. On October 2 of the same year, his bill was signed protecting 58,000 acres of California redwoods and the Land and Water Conservation Fund was further beefed-up.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, he returned to his hometown of Palisade, Colorado in 1973 to live in a new home overlooking the Colorado River which his life's work had done so much to preserve as a valuable resource for the entire western United States. He died October 9, 1983.

Now, the citizens in his hometown plan to honor his memory with a one and a half time life-size bronze sculpture by renowned North Carolina artist Thomas Jay Warren. The statue will be the central feature of a Memorial which will include the representation of a dam and river. Several adjacent Memory Walls will

be inscribed with the major achievements of the man known affectionately even today in Colorado as "Mr. Chairman." Members of the Aspinall Memorial Commission envision the Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall Memorial as an educational one, designed as much to teach students and others of the importance of sound water conservation, good government, and the history of water in the West as to record Mr. Chairman's stellar accomplishments.

The \$165,000 Memorial will sit in the southeast quadrant of what is now known as Palisade Park, on a bluff above the Colorado River about 50 yards from the home to which he had retired.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the people of Palisade and of the entire State of Colorado for their effort to honor a man who served the great American West with such distinction. And I urge all of who can do so to support this project financially.

ASPINALL MEMORIAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

Tilman N. Bishop, Retired State Senator and Educator.

Greg Walcher, Executive Director Dept. of Natural Resources.

Atty. Charles J. Traylor, former Aspinall Washington aide.

Dean Smith, Mayor of Palisade.

Rich Helm, Executive Director, Museum of Western Colorado.

Robert Helmer, Fruit Grower, President of Palisade Chamber of Commerce.

Robert C. Dougherty, Associate Publisher, Palisade Tribune.

George Distefano, Fruit Grower, representing American Legion.

Harry Talbott, President, Talbott Farms.

Elvis Guin, Retired Engineer, representing Palisades Lions Club.

Don Taylor, former Aspinall student, Retired Military.

Mike McEvoy, President, Palisades National Bank.

Mary White, sister of Mr. Aspinall.